

**THE MINUTES OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY**

Monday, March 19, 2007

10:00 a.m.

Room 352 Capitol Building

The House Standing Committee on Judiciary met in joint session with the Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections. The meeting was called to order by **Representative Alma Smith**, Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Condino, Coulouris, Bieda, Corriveau, Meadows, Scott, Warren, Schuitmaker, Stakoe, Rick Jones and Rocca.

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representatives Meisner, Virgil Smith, David Law and Elsenheimer.

Representative Bieda moved to adopt the minutes of the **March 7, 2007**, meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Representative Meadows moved to excuse absent members from the committee. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chairman Alma Smith opened the floor for a presentation from the Michigan Department of Corrections on:

Policies Affecting Prison Capacity

PRESENTERS:

Dennis Schrantz, representing the Michigan Department of Corrections. Mr. Schrantz spoke on Public Act 511 of 1988 - the Community Corrections Act, County Jail Reimbursement Program, Pre-Sentence Investigation Process, and Sentencing Guidelines. Questions and discussion followed.

John Rubitschun, representing the Michigan Department of Corrections. Mr. Rubitschun spoke on Truth in Sentencing and the Parole Process. Questions and discussion followed.

Barbara Sampson, representing the Michigan Department of Corrections Parole Board. Ms. Sampson spoke on the Parole Process. Questions and discussion followed.

Bruce Timmons from the House Republican Policy office submitted a handout of Felony Court Dispositions (People) and Percent to Prison (1973-2006) and Client Census Summary Report - data obtained from the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Chair Alma Smith placed the joint committee meeting at ease at 12:19 p.m.

The joint committee meeting reconvened at 1:17 p.m.

The presentation continued with a discussion on Straddle Cells, Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative (MPRI), Reducing Crime in Michigan, and the MPRI Community Placement Program.

TESTIMONY

Nick Ciaramitaro, former member of the Michigan Sentencing Guidelines Commission, testified.

Barbara Levine, representing the Citizens Alliance on Prisons & Public Spending (CAPPS), testified and submitted written testimony.

Tom Hickson, representing the Michigan Association of Counties, testified.

Jeff Padden, representing Public Policy Association, Inc. (PPA) and the National Institute of Corrections, testified and submitted written testimony.

Susan McParland, representing the Michigan Association for Children of Emotional Disorders, testified.

Anita Shelton Ford, representing This Is The Way, testified and submitted written testimony.

Caroline Burgess testified and submitted written testimony.

Kim Anderson, representing himself, testified and submitted written testimony.

Kenneth Malkin, representing the Bay City Public Schools, testified.

Penny Ryder, representing the American Friends Service Committee, testified.

Ann Russell, representing the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, testified.

Terrence Jungel, former Sheriff of Ionia County and Executive Director of the Michigan Sheriffs' Association, submitted written testimony and did not speak.

The following people submitted a card and did not speak:

Phil Hoffman, representing the Michigan Sheriffs' Association.

Laura Sager, representing Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM) submitted written testimony.

There being no further business to come before the committees, Chair Alma Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Representative Paul Condino, Chair
House Standing Committee on Judiciary
Malika Abdur-Rashid
Committee Clerk
517-373-7256
5 Hours and 42 Minutes